

There are many Issues in this campaign  
but the principal issue is

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We Sell Everything

SEC. AVENUE

## KEIR HARDIE TELLS HOW PRESS STIRRED WAR SPIRIT Sees Russia as winner

(Continued from page 1)

have been influenced by the poison for years past concerning German perfidy and its designs upon this country. They have been led into the belief that the German naval and military preparations were designed for the subjection of Great Britain. Those who say this most loudly through the press, and from our Parliamentary arena, know that such never was the case.

### Why Germany Has Armed

Let anybody take a map of Europe and look at the position of Germany; on the one side Russia with her millions of trained soldiers and unlimited population to draw upon (its traditional policy for over a hundred years has been to reduce Prussia to impotence, so that the Slav may reign supreme); on the other side France smarting under her defeat and the loss of her two provinces, Alsace and Lorraine, in 1870. For a number of years past these two militarisms have had a close and cordial alliance. What was it that brought the Czarism of Russia into alliance with the free republic of France? One object, and one alone, to crush Germany between them. German armaments, and the German navy were primarily intended to protect herself and her interests against these two open enemies.

If this reasoning be correct, it follows that our being in the war is a matter of the free choice of our rulers who appear to prefer that Russia should become the domineering power of Europe. I don't write these lines in order to say that we should now withdraw from the conflict. That is clearly an impossibility at present. But, if we can get these facts in stilled into the mind and brain of our own people, and of the working class generally, we shall be able to exert a much greater influence in bringing the war to a close much more speedily than the military element contemplate at present.

### Lord Kitchener's Speech.

Lord Kitchener, or some one speaking authoritatively for him, has declared in the Times that the present 100,000 installment of recruits, which is to form the new army, are to be trained for six months and then sent to the front. Another 100,000 is then to be enlisted and go through the same process; and so addition addition is to be made up in six monthly periods until 500,000 men have been trained. He makes it quite clear that if the voluntary system is not found sufficient, compulsion will have to be applied.

Some British Socialists are, unfortunately, ranging themselves on the side of militarism, and we shall require to take the strongest possible action to make it clear to our Comrades on the Continent that the hands of the I. L. P., at least, are clean, and that when the conflict is over and we have once again to meet our German, French, Belgian, and Russian Comrades, no part of the responsibility for the crime which has been done in Europe can be laid at our door.

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